

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel the previous version of claim 1 and rewrite it as follows.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121, the following is a clean copy of the rewritten claim. A marked-up version of claim 1 is attached as a separate sheet.

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1. (Amended) A method of regenerating an ion exchange resin, comprising the steps of:
packing a used ion exchange resin in a regeneration tower; and
sequentially repeating, at least twice, a step comprising passing an aqueous solution of regenerant through the regeneration tower downward from a top part of the regeneration tower and thereafter passing ultra-pure water through the regeneration tower upward from a bottom of the regeneration tower.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended to indicate that the steps are repeated sequentially. Support for the amendment can be found at, for example, page 9, line 24 to page 10, line 2. The recitation of "this step comprising downflow and upflow is repeated at least twice" indicates that the steps are conducted sequentially.

The present invention is directed to a method of regenerating an ion exchange resin. The method includes the steps of packing a used ion exchange resin in a regeneration tower and sequentially repeating, at least twice, a step that includes passing an aqueous solution of regenerant through the regeneration tower downward from a top part of the regeneration tower and thereafter passing ultra-pure water through the regeneration tower upward from the bottom of the regeneration tower. The method prevents channeling through the ion exchange resin and incomplete regeneration thereof.